

## **Assembly Bill No. 608**

### **CHAPTER 815**

An act to amend Section 14527 of the Government Code, and to amend Section 188.8 of the Streets and Highways Code, relating to transportation.

[Approved by Governor October 12, 2001. Filed  
with Secretary of State October 13, 2001.]

#### **LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

AB 608, Dickerson. Transportation funding.

(1) Under existing law, each regional transportation planning agency and each county transportation commission, after consulting with the Department of Transportation, is required to adopt and submit to the California Transportation Commission and the Department of Transportation, not later than December 15, 2001, and December 15 of each odd-numbered year thereafter, a 5-year regional transportation improvement program in conformance with the state transportation improvement program. Those local transportation entities may request and receive an amount not to exceed  $\frac{1}{2}$  of one percent of their regional improvement fund expenditures for the purposes of project planning, programming, and monitoring, except that those local transportation entities that are not receiving federal metropolitan planning funds may request and receive an amount not to exceed 2% of their regional improvement fund expenditures for those purposes.

This bill would increase the maximum amount that may be requested and received by those entities for the above described purposes to 1% and 5%, respectively.

(2) Existing law requires state transportation funds available for regional improvement projects to be programmed by the California Transportation Commission in the 5-year state transportation improvement program (STIP) in accordance with certain formulas, including the north-south split and county minimums. Existing law requires the programmed project amount in the STIP to be adjusted in certain cases.

This bill would also authorize the adjustment by the commission of a programmed project amount in the STIP if the construction contract award amount for a project is less than 80% of the engineer's final estimate, excluding construction engineering.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 14527 of the Government Code is amended to read:

14527. (a) After consulting with the department, the regional transportation planning agencies and county transportation commissions shall adopt and submit to the commission and the department, not later than December 15, 2001, and December 15 of each odd-numbered year thereafter, a five-year regional transportation improvement program in conformance with Section 65082. In counties where a county transportation commission or authority has been created pursuant to Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 130050) of Division 12 of the Public Utilities Code, the commission or the authority shall adopt and submit the county transportation improvement program, in conformance with Sections 130303 and 130304 of that code, to the multicounty designated transportation planning agency. Other information, including a program for expenditure of local or federal funds, may be submitted for information purposes with the program, but only at the discretion of the transportation planning agencies or the county transportation commissions.

(b) The regional transportation improvement program shall include all projects to be funded with regional improvement funds under paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 164 of the Streets and Highways Code. The regional programs shall be limited to projects to be funded in whole or in part with regional improvement funds which shall include all projects to receive allocations by the commission during the following five fiscal years. For each project, the total expenditure for each project component and the total amount of commission allocation and the year of allocation shall be stated. The total cost of projects to be funded with regional improvement funds shall not exceed the amount specified in the fund estimate made by the commission pursuant to Section 14525.

(c) The regional transportation planning agencies and county transportation commissions may recommend projects to improve state highways with interregional improvement funds pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 164 of the Streets and Highways Code. The recommendations shall be separate and distinct from the regional transportation program. A project recommended for funding pursuant to this subdivision shall constitute a usable segment and shall not be a condition for inclusion of other projects in the regional transportation improvement program.

(d) Major projects shall include current costs updated as of November 1 of the year of submittal and escalated to the appropriate year, and shall



be consistent with, and provide the information required in, subdivision (b) of Section 14529.

(e) The regional transportation improvement program may not change the project delivery milestone date of any project as shown in the prior adopted state transportation improvement program without the consent of the department or other agency responsible for the project's delivery.

(f) Projects may not be included in the regional transportation improvement program without a complete project study report or, for a project that is not on a state highway, a project study report equivalent or major investment study.

(g) The transportation planning agencies and county transportation commissions may request and receive an amount not to exceed 1 percent of their regional improvement fund expenditures for the purposes of project planning, programming, and monitoring. A transportation planning agency or county transportation commission not receiving federal metropolitan planning funds may request and receive an amount not to exceed 5 percent of its regional improvement fund expenditures for the purposes of project planning, programming, and monitoring.

SEC. 2. Section 188.8 of the Streets and Highways Code is amended to read:

188.8. (a) From the funds programmed pursuant to Section 188 for regional improvement projects, the commission shall approve programs and program amendments, so that funding is distributed to each county of County Group No. 1 and in each county of County Group No. 2 during the county share periods commencing July 1, 1997, and ending June 30, 2004, and each period of four years thereafter. The amount shall be computed as follows:

(1) The commission shall compute, for the county share periods all of the money to be expended for regional improvement projects in County Groups Nos. 1 and 2, respectively, as provided in Section 188.

(2) From the amount computed for County Group No. 1 in paragraph (1) for the county share periods the commission shall determine the amount of programming for each county in the group based on a formula which is based 75 percent on the population of the county to the total population of County Group No. 1 and 25 percent on state highway miles in the county to the total state highway miles in County Group No. 1.

(3) From the amount computed for County Group No. 2 in paragraph (1) for the county share periods the commission shall determine the amount of programming for each county in the group based on a formula which is based 75 percent on the population of the county to the total population of County Group No. 2 and 25 percent on state highway miles in the county to the total state highway miles in County Group No. 2.



(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), that portion of the county population and state highway mileage in El Dorado and Placer Counties that is included within the jurisdiction of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency shall be counted separately toward the area under the jurisdiction of the Tahoe Regional Transportation Agency and shall not be included in El Dorado and Placer Counties. The commission shall approve programs, program amendments, and fund reservations for the area under the jurisdiction of the Tahoe Regional Transportation Agency which shall be calculated using the formula described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a).

(c) A transportation planning agency designated pursuant to Section 29532 of the Government Code, or a county transportation commission created by Division 12 (commencing with Section 130000) of the Public Utilities Code, may adopt a resolution to pool its county share programming with any county or counties adopting similar resolutions to consolidate its county shares for two consecutive county share periods into a single share covering both periods. A multicounty transportation planning agency with a population of less than three million may also adopt a resolution to pool the share of any county or counties within its region. The resolution shall provide for pooling the county share programming in any of the pooling counties for the new single share period and shall be submitted to the commission not later than May 1 immediately preceding the commencement of the county share period.

(d) For the purposes of this section, funds programmed shall include the following costs pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 14529 of the Government Code:

(1) The amounts programmed or budgeted for both components of project development in the original programmed year.

(2) The amount programmed for right-of-way in the year programmed in the most recent state transportation improvement program. If the final estimate is greater than 120 percent or less than 80 percent of the amount originally programmed, the amount shall be adjusted for final expenditure estimates at the time of right-of-way certification.

(3) The engineer's final estimate of project costs, including construction engineering, presented to the commission for approval pursuant to Section 14533 of the Government Code in the year programmed in the most recent state transportation improvement program. If the construction contract award amount is less than 80 percent of the engineer's final estimate, excluding construction engineering, the department shall notify the commission and the commission may adjust its project allocation accordingly.



(4) Project costs shown in the program, as amended, where project allocations have not yet been approved by the commission, escalated to the date of scheduled project delivery.

(e) Project costs shall not be changed to reflect any of the following:

(1) Differences that are within 20 percent of the amount programmed for actual project development cost.

(2) Actual right-of-way purchase costs.

(3) Construction contract award amounts, except when those amounts are less than 80 percent of the engineer's final estimate, excluding construction engineering, and the commission has adjusted the project construction allocation.

(4) Changes in construction expenditures, except for supplemental project allocations made by the commission.

(f) For the purposes of this section, the population in each county is that determined by the last preceding federal census, or a subsequent census validated by the Population Research Unit of the Department of Finance, at the beginning of each county share period.

(g) For the purposes of this section, "state highway miles" means the miles of state highways open to vehicular traffic at the beginning of each county share period.

(h) It is the intent of the Legislature that there is to be flexibility in programming under this section and Section 188 so that, while ensuring that each county will receive an equitable share of state transportation improvement program funding, the types of projects selected and the programs from which they are funded may vary from county to county.

(i) Commencing with the four-year period commencing on July 1, 2004, individual county share shortfalls and surpluses at the end of each four-year period, if any, shall be carried forward and credited or debited to the following four years.

(j) The commission, with the consent of the department, may consider programming projects in the state transportation improvement program in a region with a population of not more than 1,000,000 at a level higher or lower than a county share, when the regional agency either asks to reserve part or all of its share until a future programming year, to build up a larger share for a higher cost project, or asks to advance an amount of the share, in an amount not to exceed 200 percent of its current share, for a larger project, to be deducted from shares for future programming years. After consulting with the department, the commission may adjust the level of programming in the regional program in the affected region against the level of interregional programming in the improvement program to accomplish the reservation or advancement, for the current state transportation



improvement program. The commission shall keep track of any resulting shortfalls or surpluses in county shares.

(k) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), in a region defined by Section 66502 of the Government Code, the transportation planning agency may adopt a resolution to pool the county share of any county or counties within the region, provided that each county shall receive no less than 85 percent and not more than 115 percent of its county share for a single county share period and 100 percent of its county share over two consecutive county share periods. The resolution shall be submitted to the commission not later than May 1, immediately preceding the commencement of the county share period.

(l) Federal funds used for federal demonstration projects that use federal obligational authority otherwise available for other projects shall be subtracted from the county share of the county where the project is located.

